

Voluntary Report

(For the Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior)

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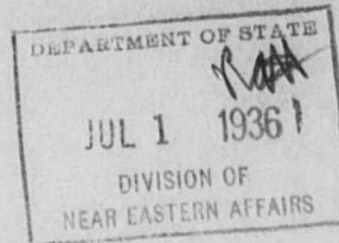
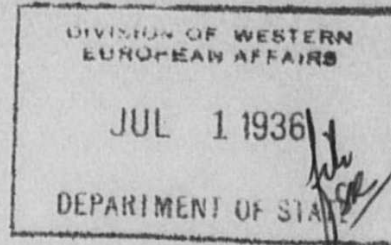
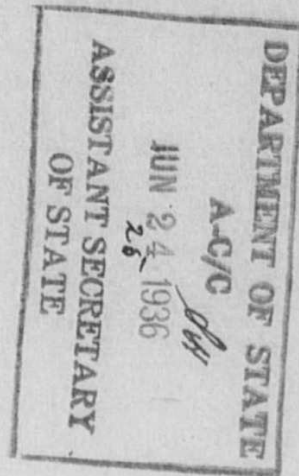
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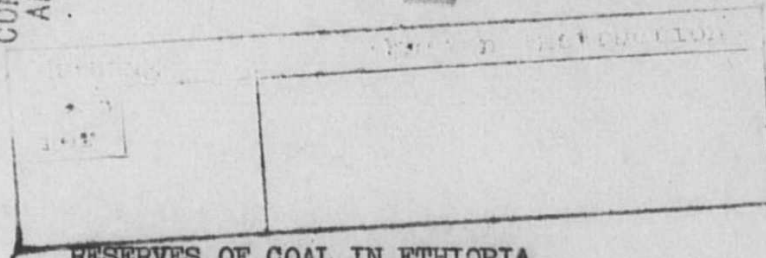
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DIVISION OF
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865D. 6362/1



RESERVES OF COAL IN ETHIOPIA

From:

Ivan Lavretsky
Ivan Lavretsky
Clerk

American Consulate General,
Genoa, Italy

Date of Completion: June 3, 1936

Date of Mailing: June 6, 1936

Approved: *John R. Putnam*
John R. Putnam
American Consul General

JUL 2 1936
FILED

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The coal trade monthly IL CARBONE (of Milan), replying to a correspondent who inquired concerning the alleged existence of exploitable reserves of coal in Italy's new territory in Africa, stated in substance the following:

According to a recent report of Messrs. O. Guenther and F. Hermann which was published in the ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR PRAKTISCHE GEOLOGIE (No. 11, 1935) reserves of solid fuels do, as a matter of fact, exist in Ethiopia. These reserves are said to be essentially lignite of the tertiary period.

At Debra Libanos (seventy-five miles north of Addis Ababa) there is a twenty-meter deposit of lignite which it is presumed could be exploited without technical difficulties.

At Borro Meda on Lake Tana there is a deposit of bituminous coal. Other deposits of solid fuels are reported as having been found at Addis Ababa, Ankobar, Baltschi, Tegulette, Chelga, and in the valley of the Didessa fifty kilometers from where this stream meets the Blue Nile.

With regard to the correspondent's second query as to the probable cost of industrial exploitation of the Ethiopian coal reserves, the Italian periodical is cautious, limiting its answer to observing that, inasmuch as up to the present no attempts at the industrial exploitation of coal have been made, any statement concerning operating costs would be premature.

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Source:
IL CARBONE, May 1936.

Transmitted to the Department in quintuplicate
Copy to the Consulate General, Naples
Copy to Charles W. Wright, Vice Consul, care of
American Consulate General, Berlin.



OFFICE OF ECONOMIC ADVISOR
FEB 24 1937
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

January 6, 1937.

No. 222.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Subject: Discovery of Coal Deposits near Addis Ababa.

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FEB 20 1937

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 18 1937
DIVISION OF
NEAR EASTERN AFFAIRS

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The Honorable

RECORDING DESK
FILE - W

The Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sir:

I have the honor to report that, according to Italian sources, rich Lignite deposits of excellent quality have been discovered some 120 miles northeast of Addis Ababa, in the region of Debra Berhan.

These deposits are said to have been found by members of the "Servizio Geologico Minerario dell' Impero" who have been exploring the country since the dry season began last October. They report the thickness of the veins to average about 20 feet.

Respectfully yours

C. Van H. Engert
C. Van H. Engert
Minister Resident

File No. 863.6
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FEB 25 1937

GML

Central File: Decimal File 865D.6362, Internal Affairs Of States, Mines. Mining. Concessions., Carbon. Graphite., Italian East Africa, Coal., January 6, 1937. 6 Jan. 1937. MS European Colonialism in the Early 20th Century. National Archives (United States). Archives Unbound, link.gale.com/apps/doc/FSC5109727803/FGDSC%3Fu%3Domni%26sid%3Dbookmark-GDSC. Accessed 18 June 2025.